

### **Remarks**

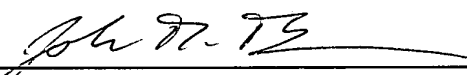
In response to the non-final Office Action mailed November 20, 2003, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments above and remarks below. Prior to this amendment, claims 1-18 were pending. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 10 have been amended, and claim 18 has been canceled, no claims have been added. Thus, claims 1-17 and 19 are now pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by USPN 5,479,488 to Lennig et al. (hereinafter the Lennig patent). The Applicants respectfully submit that the Lennig patent fails to disclose each limitation of the claimed invention. In particular, the Lennig patent fails to disclose limiting the use of a call routing telecommunications network by providing an intelligent service peripheral which is separate from a call routing network. In this manner, requests for directory assistance are routed to the intelligence service peripheral and non-requests for directory assistance are routed to the call routing telecommunications network, thereby limiting the use of the call routing network.

In contrast, the Lennig patent, as shown in Figure 2, routes both requests and non-requests for directory assistance to call routing network 12. In particular, the Lennig patent uses a network routing/switching device 30 to route request for directory assistance to switch network 12 so that switch network 12 can route the request to automated voice processing and speech recognition system 14a. Because the request for directory assistance is routed to switch network 12 before being routed to system 14a, the Lennig patent fails to disclose the claimed invention.

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-17 and 19 are not anticipated or obvious over the Lennig patent. Consequently, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and that the case pass to issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
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